

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 184488
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY AF/E:KLWAUCHOPE:JJ
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S/S-O:SVALARGA

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184488

EXDIS - FOR AMBASSADOR FROM HARROP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, AF

SUBJECT: TALKING POINTS FOR CREDENTIAL PRESENTATION

WHILE WE APPRECIATE THAT THE CEREMONY SURROUNDING THE PRESENTATION OF YOUR CREDENTIALS WILL PROBABLY NOT AFFORD AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MUCH SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION, NONETHELESS, GIVEN THE INFREQUENCY WITH WHICH THE EMBASSY HAS ACCESS TO MENGISTU, SHOULD THE OCCASION ARISE THE AMBASSADOR MAY WISH TO DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS:

1. WE URGE THE CHAIRMAN TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE PRESENCE OF A U.S. AMBASSADOR TO IMPROVE THE ETHIOPIAN-U.S. DIALOGUE. AT A MINIMUM, SUCH A DIALOGUE WOULD ENABLE THE CHAIRMAN TO CHECK OUT PRIVATELY WITH THE AMBASSADOR THE VALIDITY OF ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE U.S. WHICH MIGHT BE BROUGHT TO HIS ATTENTION. MORE BROADLY, IT WOULD PROMOTE THE IMPROVED BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WE BOTH DESIRE.

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2. I AM PERSONALLY REVIEWING THE PENDING U.S. COMPENSATION CASES IN THE HOPE OF DEFUSING THIS ISSUE. I HOPE YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE RECIPROCAL EFFORTS SO THAT THIS ISSUE WILL NOT BE AN OBSTACLE TO IMPROVED RELATIONS.

3. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE NATIONS

OF THE HORN OF AFRICA HAS CONSISTENTLY SOUGHT TO MAINTAIN
THE OPTIMUM RELATIONSHIP WITH ALL STATES OF THE REGION.
WE ARE NOW ENGAGED IN NORMALIZING OUR RELATIONS WITH
SOMALIA WHICH HAVE BEEN STRAINED FOR A PERIOD OF YEARS.
WE INTEND TO PROCEED WITH THIS EFFORT IN A MANNER WHICH
WILL NOT HAMPER OUR CONCURRENT EFFORTS TO RESTORE OUR
RELATIONS WITH THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT TO A MORE
COOPERATIVE LEVEL.

4. WE ARE PREPARED TO MAKE APPROPRIATE CONTRIBUTIONS TO
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EFFORTS OF THE ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION
THROUGH U.S. AID. PROGRESS ON THE COMPENSATION QUESTION
AND FAVORABLE DECISIONS BY THE ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES WILL
FACILITATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE ASSISTANCE
PROGRAMS.

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